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Date: July 19, 2004

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FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

Facsimile Number: (703) 872-9306

To:

Examiner P. LISH

Group Axt Unit 1754, USPTO

From:

Mr. Daniel J. Stanger

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.

Re:

USSN 10/078,347

Attorney Docket No.: NIP-256

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the following listed documents are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

PTO-1083 (Transmittal Letter); and

REPLY.

PETITION FOR TWO-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME; and

CREDIT, CARD/FORM FOR \$420.00 FEE.

Daniel J. Stanger Reg. No. 32,846

Total Number of Pages (including cover sheet): 17

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FORM PTQ-1083

PATENT

Case Docket No. NIP256

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In RE application of

K. ANAZAWA et al.

Serial No.: 10/078,347

Group Art Unit: 1754

JUL 1 9 2004

Filed: July 19, 2004

Examiner: P. LISH

For: RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE DECONTAMINATION METHOD AND APPARATUS

OFFICIAL

Assistant Commissioner for Patenta Washington, D.C. 20231 Sir: Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application. Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted. A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed. No additional fee is required. The fee has been calculated as shown below: OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY (CQL. 2) (COL. 3) (COL. 1) Additional OR Additional Claims Remaining After Amendmen Hignest No. Proviously Paid For Present Extra a つり O 18 0 Q 8 Minus Total O 0 3 3 42 84 3 Minus 0 140 280 First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims 0 Total OR Total If the entry in Cot. 1 is less than the entry in Cot. 2, write 'O' in Cot. 5, if the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write '20' in this space. If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write '2' in this space. The 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed. Please chargo my Deposit Account No. 50-1417 in the amount of \$_ A check in the amount of \$ 420.00 is attached in paymer CREDIT CARD FORM (AMEX) IS ATTACHED (\$420.00). A check in the amount of \$ is attached in payment of: Х The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication x or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. X Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

x

х

Date: July 19, 2004

Ву

Any Extension of Time fees that are necessary, which are hereby requested if necessary.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Registration No. 32,846

Attorney for Applicant(s)

JUL 1 9 2004

NIP-256

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

K. ANAZAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Serial No. 10/078,347

Examiner: P. LISH

Filed: February 21, 2002

For: RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE

DECONTAMINATION METHOD AND APPARATUS

OFFICIAL

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Commissioner of Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22314

July 19, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 18, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Petition and fee for a Two-month Extension of Time accompanies this response.

IN THE CLAIMS

Rewrite claims 1-8 and Claim 14 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A radioactive substance decontamination apparatus for decontaminating a metal member contaminated by a radioactive substance using a reducing decontamination agent, comprising:

multiple reducing decontamination tanks having different